

GRACED AND ANOINTED

2Co 1:21 *Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God,*

God both establishes us and anoints us. The word “established” here means to place in a firm and fixed position. This first took place when you were born again. When we were saved the Spirit baptized us into the body of Christ. [1 Cor. 12:13] We were established and placed in the body of Christ right where it pleased God. [1 Cor. 12:18] We become established after we are born again by following the Lord and finding our place of ministry, put down roots, and operate there. Every person also was given grace to function where they were placed in the body. Every person has a grace gift to be what they are.

(1Co 15:10) But **by the grace of God I am what I am**, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God *which was* with me.

1Co 7:7 For I wish that all men were even as I myself. But **each one has his own gift from God**, one in this manner and another in that.

1Co 7:17 But as God has **distributed to each one**, as the Lord has called each one, so let him walk. And so I ordain in all the churches.

1Co 12:7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is **given to each one** for the profit *of all*:

1Co 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, **distributing to each one** individually as He wills.

Eph 4:7 But to **each one of us grace was given** according to the measure of Christ's gift.

1Pe 4:10 As **each one has received a gift**, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

Every person has received grace to operate to be what God has called them to be. As your natural body has many parts and each part is gifted to

operate as that part, so it is with the body of Christ. You have been gifted and graced to do what you were called to do. We were graced. The word grace not only means unmerited favor, but also unmerited ability. You have been given supernatural ability to function somewhere in the body of Christ doing a certain thing. There are **five equipping offices** in the body of Christ- Apostle, Prophet, Evangelist, Pastor/Teacher. These are called to equip the body of Christ to do the work of the ministry. [Eph. 4:11-12] There are also **seven body offices** in which those not in the five fold equipping offices all are divided into. They are prophecy [not Prophet], serving [helps], exhortation, teaching [not Teacher], giving, administration [leading], and mercy. Together the equipping offices and the body offices add up to **twelve offices**. The number twelve in the Bible stands for divine government. Christ governs and works through the body of Christ through these twelve offices. You are graced to operate in one of these twelve offices. You received spiritual grace(s) once you were born again or later in your walk with Christ. Not only are there spiritual graces, but God has given each human natural grace(s) that were given to them at birth. They are gifts or natural talents. What you are graced to do you do with little effort. It comes easily and you can do that thing you are graced to do well. So many Christians have not discovered their grace or are not walking in it. Your grace or gift is connected with the place God has called you to. Too many people are trying to be something they are not and they are frustrated. Many are seeking money and not their place of grace. Let me tell you that money will follow you when you find your place of grace and operate there. So each person has a grace from God to serve Him. This grace is given to each person and they are a steward over that gift. [1 Peter 4:10] They can use it for God or for themselves. **We must not just operate in our grace but we must also be anointed for our ministry.** There is a difference between being gifted [graced] and being anointed. We can be graced by God in a certain area and not be anointed. Let me give you an example

A pastor of a church ends his sermon and starts the altar call. Now as he is doing the altar call a person stands up, interrupts the pastor, and starts giving a message in tongues. The Lord has given this person the divine ability [grace] to speak in tongues. They could not do this in their natural self or own ability. However, how and when they are using this gift is wrong. The Spirit will not lead someone to give a message in tongues and be leading the pastor to give an altar call at the same time. The person is clearly not **anointed** in this situation even though they are graced. When

the anointing is on something there will be blessing, uplifting, and edification of others.

Another example is a pastor who is gifted to teach. However, the pastor decides to teach something he wants to teach and does not seek the Lord is what He wants him to minister on. That pastor can operate in his grace [teaching] and not be anointed because it is not the message the Lord wants for that specific time, people, or place.

What is needed is that we operate in our grace and be anointed in doing it. When these two are combined great power and blessing is released to those around us. You can be graced and not anointed, but God also will not provide His anointing where He has not graced you. If you are not a pastor, you will not have the grace [gift] to pastor. You can ask God for His anointing to pastor, but He will not, because you are not graced or called to pastor.

Both problems are found rampant in the body of Christ. There are many that are trying to operate in a place they are not graced for. They seek for the anointing to do what they want but are not anointed. There are also many graced to operate in their place but they are not anointed. They are trying to operate in the gift without seeking the Lord's touch and direction upon it. How do you receive anointing upon your grace [gift]? Again the grace gift is for the individual to steward. They can use it for God or for themselves. You will only receive anointing upon your gift when you submit your gift back unto God. You must first submit yourself to God. By worship and spending time before God we submit our self to Him and we receive anointing from His presence. The anointing is the presence of the Lord. Those who are greatly anointed spend significant time in the presence of God by prayer and meditation of the Word. Our gift becomes anointed when we submit our gift to God and ask Him for specific direction in the use of that gift and His empowerment in its use. When we do this we will see significant fruit from our ministry. Many that are gifted trust in the gift and not in the Lord. They do not spend time in prayer over how, when, and where to use their gift. Therefore they are gifted but not anointed. Paul was called and gifted to be an evangelist but he submitted that gift to God. On Paul's second missionary journey Paul was about to preach in Asia, but the Spirit said no. He wanted to go to Bithynia, but the Spirit said no. [Acts 16:6-7] He could have went anyway and operated in his gift, but he would have not been anointed to do it. He would be out of the will of God, even though he was gifted to do it. If Paul went any way the people who acted

upon the Word he preached would be blessed, but Paul would have not had the impact and the power of the Spirit manifest to the same degree because He would be out of the will of God. He would be gifted but not anointed in that situation. We must be gifted and anointed to make the maximum impact in the kingdom. So, find your gift and once you do continually submit yourself and that gift to God by spending time in His presence and trust God to anoint you and your gift to powerfully minister to others. This works if you are in business making money so you can be a giver, or being a helper in the church, or pastoring a church. We must be both graced and anointed in this hour.